

HA-1339

c. 1887

Frank Dorsey House
215 Archer Street
Bel Air
Private

Originally a simple shotgun style house, this building has acquired wood shingle siding and shutters and shows what a handsome home these houses can make when lovingly cared for.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Frank Dorsey House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

215 Archer Street

1st

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___DISTRICT

☒BUILDING(S)

___STRUCTURE

___SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___PUBLIC

☒PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒OCCUPIED

___UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒YES: RESTRICTED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

___COMMERCIAL

___EDUCATIONAL

___ENTERTAINMENT

___GOVERNMENT

___INDUSTRIAL

___MILITARY

___MUSEUM

___PARK

☒PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___RELIGIOUS

___SCIENTIFIC

___TRANSPORTATION

___OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Frank Dorsey

Telephone #: 838-5449

STREET & NUMBER

215 Archer Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	(porch)	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This wooden shingle, two bay, two and a half story shot-gun house is at 215 Archer Street in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. It has a one bay shed on the back that is probably the original kitchen. A newer two bay shed addition is on the last bays of the south elevation. The windows are 2/2 double-hung sash except for those in the south shed which are 1/1 aluminum double-hung sash. The house presents a blind gable to the street and has a glass jalousie enclosed front porch.

A shiplap or clapboard siding is more common on houses of this kind; perhaps the shingles are an alteration.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1887 BUILDER/ARCHITECT _____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This small shot-gun house is a well-kept example of late 19th century workingman's housing in Bel Air. It is also an excellent example of the neat and trim condition these old houses can present under loving care.

This house was built around 1887 on lot #55 in the Hays Addition. Alex Bell bought the lot from the Bel Air Land Company. The land in the addition was in the estate of Thomas Hays, a wealthy Bel Air merchant who died in 1861.

The house is now owned by Frank Dorsey (1034/925).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies parcel #1257 in the Town of Bel Air,
56' x 158'.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marilynn Larew, Architectural Historian

19 June 1979

ORGANIZATION

Town of Bel Air

DATE

838-8700

STREET & NUMBER

39 Hickory Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
21 STATE CIRCLE
SHAW HOUSE
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET
Individual Structure Survey Form

SURVEY NUMBER: HA-1339

NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:

UTM REFERENCES:
Zone/Easting/Northing

U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:

PRESENT FORMAL NAME:
Frank Dorsey house

ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:
Ally Bell House

PRESENT USE: *private residence*

ORIGINAL USE: *"*

ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:

PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:

Excellent (X) Good ()
Fair () Poor: ()

THEME: *architecture*

STYLE: *vernacular*

DATE BUILT:
c. 1887

COUNTY: *Harford*

TOWN: *Bell Air*

LOCATION:
215 Archer

COMMON NAME:
Dorsey house

FUNCTIONAL TYPE: *private residence*

OWNER: *Frank Dorsey*

ADDRESS: *215 Archer*
Bell Air

ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:

Yes () No () Restricted (X)

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Local (X) State () National ()

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Structural System

1. Foundation: Stone (X) Brick () Concrete () Concrete Block ()
2. Wall Structure
 - A. Wood Frame: Post and Beam () Balloon ()
 - B. Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick () Stone () Concrete () Concrete Block ()
 - C. Iron () D. Steel () E. Other:
3. Wall Covering: Clapboard () Board and Batten () Wood Shingle (X) Shiplap ()
Novelty () Stucco () Sheet Metal () Aluminum () Asphalt Shingle ()
Brick Veneer () Stone Veneer ()
Bonding Pattern: Other:
4. Roof Structure
 - A. Truss: Wood () Iron () Steel () Concrete ()
 - B. Other:
5. Roof Covering: Slate () Wood Shingle () Asphalt Shingle (X) Sheet Metal ()
Built Up () Rolled () Tile () Other:
6. Engineering Structure:
7. Other: *enclosed*

Appendages: Porches (X) Towers () Cupolas () Dormers () Chimneys (X) Sheds (X) Ells ()
Wings () Other:

Roof Style: Gable (X) Hip () Shed () Flat () Mansard () Gambrel () Jerkinhead ()
Saw Tooth () With Monitor () With Bellcast () With Parapet () With False Front ()
Other:

Number of Stories: *2 1/2*

Number of Bays: *2 x 2 + shed*

Approximate Dimensions: *12 1/2' x 35'*

Entrance Location: *Archer St.*

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:

No Threat (X) Zoning () Roads ()
Development () Deterioration ()
Alteration () Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:

Positive () Negative ()
Mixed () Other:

HA 1339

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Windows 2/2 in plain surrounds aluminum shutters
chimney w/ plain caps center of shed addit. another shed addit
on last bay on S. side. with modern aluminum double hung
1/2 windows

front porch enclosed in glass jalousies

brown w white trim

blank gable

well-kept - owner occupied

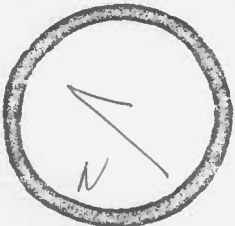
RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

workingman's housing

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North In Circle)



Archer St.

Balto. Pike

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Open Lane() Woodland() Scattered Buildings()
Moderately Built Up() Densely Built Up()
Residential() Commercial()
Agricultural() Industrial()
Roadside Strip Development()
Other:

RECORDED BY:

ORGANIZATION:

DATE RECORDED:

M. Larew

Town of Bel Air

18 June 79



HA-1339

Frank Dorsey House, 215 Archer St., Bel Air
w + s elev

M. Larew, 1979